4-H Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kansas State Fair Horse Entries Due</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Elk County 4-H Council Meeting -- 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Kansas Junior Livestock Show Entries Due</td>
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<td>September</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kansas State Fair Exhibits to Hutchinson</td>
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<td>8 - 17</td>
<td>Kansas State Fair -- Hutchinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Record Books, Achievement Pin Applications, Excellence Award Applications, Club Summary Reports and Officer Notebooks Due</td>
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<td>29 - October 1</td>
<td>Kansas Junior Livestock Show -- Hutchinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Beginning of New 4-H Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 - 7</td>
<td>National 4-H Week</td>
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<td>7 - 8</td>
<td>48 Hours of 4-H</td>
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County Fair Wrap Up

A big thank you to everyone that helped out at the fair! Without everyone’s efforts, the fair would not be possible. Now that the fair is over, and school is getting ready to start, attention turns to record books. Included in this newsletter is all kinds of information about completing your records and applying for awards.

Try to put the 4-H fair in perspective. It is only one part of the total 4-H learning experience. Serving as an officer or on a committee, giving a talk or demonstration, going to a project meeting or workshop, completing record sheets and going to a camp or other 4-H event are few of the hundreds of experiences a 4-H’er learns from throughout the year.
Kansas Junior Livestock Show Entries are due August 15. Here is the link to the online entry process: https://kansasjls.fairwire.com/

4-H Council

4-H Council will meet on **Monday, August 7, 6:30 p.m.** at the Extension Meeting Room in Howard.

Agenda items include: County Fair review and Achievement Banquet.

Livestock Buyer Thank You’s

For those of you in the market livestock projects, sale folders will be available soon. I will let members know when they are ready. Folders will include buyer ribbons and a thank you list as well as a base bid check if you have one. Only donors that donated a set amount of money receive a buyer’s ribbon.

Once you turn in your record book, you will receive your premium sale check. In order to receive your premium sale check, members must turn in at a minimum the livestock record(s) for the animal(s) that they sold in the premium sale as well as a permanent record and personal information page.

Once again, we had a tremendously successful premium sale this year. We are very fortunate in Elk County to have such a good sale. It is essential that members thank the donors, buyers and supporters of the 4-H program.

Kansas State Fair

This week I will email out a list of items that are eligible to be entered in the Kansas State Fair. **Just a note:** Not all items from the county fair are eligible for the Kansas State Fair. Only members age 9 and older as of January 1, 2023 are eligible to exhibit. Also, some categories do not have divisions at the State Fair.

If you want to enter, please let the office know by Monday, August 7 so we can get them entered by the due date.

Those that enter the Kansas State Fair will be mailed information about their exhibit(s).

4-H Record Books

4-H Record Books are due September 22! All forms and other information are located on the website at: https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/recordbooks/index.html

For Market Livestock exhibitors that went through the premium sale in order to receive your premium sale check, members must turn in at a minimum the livestock record(s) for the animal(s) that they sold in the premium sale as well as a permanent record and personal information page. For example, if you sold a goat and a hog in the premium sale, at a minimum you must turn in a market hog record and market goat record as well as the personal information page and permanent record to receive your check.

All forms and other information are located on the Rolling Prairie Extension website at: https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/recordbooks/index.html

When record books are handed in, they should be arranged in the following order:

1. **Achievement Pin Application** - (If you are applying for one). If not sure which pin you are to apply for, contact the Extension Office.

2. **Excellence in Project Achievement Award Check Sheet(s)** - (If you are applying for any.)
3. **Personal Information Page**--Should be current year's Personal Information Page; be sure to include a picture of yourself.

4. **General 4-H Story**--Not to exceed six pages, double-spaced on one side.

5. **Permanent Record**--A well completed Permanent Record should reflect growth of the project. Size of the project does not mean exhibits at the fair, it means number of animals, articles made, pictures taken, books read, etc.

6. **Current year's project report forms** -- Complete per the instructions on the project report forms.

DIVIDERS: Use tab dividers to make projects easy to find.

**Things to Remember:**
- Your records are the only impression of you the judge has.
- Tell everything about your project--don’t take anything for granted.
- Be neat.
- Be accurate.
- Be sure to get all signatures. If you don’t have a project leader, your parents may sign as your leader.
- Fill in the blanks--even if it is with none or N/A.
- Add another page if you need more room on Permanent Record.
- Be sure to always fill out your own book.
- Do not include newspaper clippings, ribbons, awards or things like this in your record book. These go in a scrapbook or shoebox.
- Pencil, pen, or type? Whatever the 4-H’er feels comfortable with as long as the 4-H’er completes their own records. Be consistent with whatever you do. If you print or write, use blue or black ink, or type, try to do the same for all of your records.

**DO NOT ADD MORE PICTURES THAN WHAT IS ASKED FOR OR REQUIRED!!**

- Follow directions on assembly order, number of picture pages and information requested on the records.
- On Project Report Forms, extra pages or pictures cannot be added. Only use the spaces that are allowed on each page.

**General 4-H Story:**

Your General 4-H story is an important part of your records. It should focus on how the total 4-H year impacted you and your family. Tell about experiences you have had this 4-H year; good and bad and what these experiences meant to you. Do not just tell what ribbons or awards you received. You can include these, but talk about your experiences, growth, and development.

The following outline may help you in developing your story. **Do not use** numbers or asterisks to outline your story when writing it.

- **Introduction:** Include your age, interests, parents, brother and sisters, where you live, where you go to school, and for first year members why you joined 4-H.

- **Project Information:** Tell about your projects -- things you learned, whether your project grew in size and scope, successes and failures, experiences and 4-H events participated in i.e. 4-H Club Days, Livestock Judging, Spring Livestock Shows, etc. Can also tell if you served as any officers on the club or county level, or other leadership roles, and other 4-H events participated in.

- **Future plans:** Tell how you have benefited from 4-H participation and what are some future plans you have.

If you have any questions, please ask!!

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**Summary of Achievement Awards Due 9-22-23**

- 4-H Record Book
  - Achievement Pin Applications
  - Excellence in Project Achievement Awards
Community club leaders and the 4-H’er will determine if the Excellence in Project Achievement Award should be awarded. The record book should still be turned into the club leader by the 4-H’er. The form has been updated this year to a check sheet. Your record book should include the completed Personal Information Page, General 4-H Story, Permanent Record, and the age-appropriate Project Report Form for the project you are applying for to receive the Excellence Award. INFORMATION IN THE PROJECT REPORT FORM, GENERAL 4-H STORY, AND/OR PERMANENT RECORD should answer the questions.

Members basically decide how many projects they want to be recognized in by completing the requirements on however many projects they want to. Only members receiving the Excellence in Project Achievement Awards will be eligible for county project champion.

Excellence Award check sheets and record books are due in the Extension Office Friday, September 22. Also due September 22 are achievement pin applications, key award applications, club summary reports, and officer notebooks.

The Excellence forms are available at the Extension Office or on the website. Applications need to be completed according to the directions listed on them. Listed by each requirement is where the information should be found in your record book to verify you met that particular requirement.

Excellence awards may be awarded to Juniors (members age 7-13); and Seniors (members 14 and older). Age is based on January 1 of the current year. County Champions will be selected in the Senior Age Division (14 and older) and in the Junior Age Division (Age 13 and under). Seniors are the only ones that are eligible to compete at the area level judging.

From the Excellence in Project Achievement Award winners in a project, a county champion may be selected, if the quality merits.

The Excellence in Project Achievement Awards that may be awarded at 4-H Achievement Banquet are as follows:

- Beef
- Bucket Calf
- Civic Engagement (formerly known as Citizenship)
- Clothing & Textiles (includes Clothing Construction & Buymanship)
- Communications
- Dairy (includes Dairy Cattle & Dairy Goats)
- Dog Care & Training
- Entomology
- Environmental Science
- Exploring 4-H
- Family Studies
- Fiber Arts
- Foods & Nutrition
- Geology
- Health and Wellness
Club Officer Elections

The September club meeting is the time for clubs to elect officers for the new 4-H year. Electing officers can be a very educational process for both young and old members. Here are a few suggestions I have for your club in electing officers.

Election of officers should not be a popularity contest. Members need to be reminded to elect the individual(s) that will do the best job for each office.

- Talk to members about the election process and why we use it in a democracy.
- I strongly suggest that clubs use a nominating committee and prepare a ballot. Allow write-ins and let the 4-H’ers vote by written ballot.
- Allow the group to see the total nominating committee’s report before taking nominations.
Rolling Prairie Extension District

Elk County 4-H News
Rolling Prairie Extension District

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